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Listing of the Claims:

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter comprising an antisense oligonucleotide consisting essentially comprising 10 or more contiguous bases of the nucleotide sequence A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, or M set forth in any one of [[()]]SEQ ID NOS: 1 and 3-13), respectively wherein the oligonucleotide is conjugated to a peptide and wherein the oligonucleotide is complementary to a bcl-xL-encoding mRNA and inhibits translation thereof.

6-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter comprising an antisense oligonucleotide consisting of the nucleotide sequence B-+ set forth in SEQ ID NO:2[[()]] wherein the oligonucleotide is conjugated to a peptide and wherein the oligonucleotide is complementary to a bcl-xL-encoding mRNA and inhibits translation thereof.

10-42. (Canceled)

43. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an antisense oligonucleotide of claim 5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the effective amount is between 0.1 μM and 10 μM.

44-47. (Canceled).